

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for notifying a central authority of changes to a trusted computing installation, comprising the steps of:

determining that a user has made a security modification to a portion of the trusted computing installation under user control;

determining that the security modification is a notification event if the security modification is a predetermined event indicative of an attempt to circumvent a security mechanism of the trusted computing installation of interest; and

sending the central authority a notification of the security modification, in response to determining that the security modification is a notification event.

2. (Currently Amended) The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the notification predetermined event is chosen from the group consisting of a failed applet signature verification, an addition of a certificate in a certificate database and a modification of a certificate in a certificate database.

3. (Currently Amended) The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the notification predetermined event is an addition of a certificate in a certificate database created by a Java applet wishing to run with higher privileges and further comprising the steps of:

verifying a signature of the Java applet;
responsive to a failed verification of the signature, running the applet as untrusted;
and
sending the central authority a notification of the failed verification.

4. (Currently Amended) The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the notification event is a modification of a certificate in a certificate database central authority provides a mechanism wherein the group of predetermined events can be modified by an authorized user.

5. (Currently Amended) The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the notification is chosen from the group consisting of an SNMP alert, an e-mail, a screen message and an online database.

6. (Currently Amended) The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the security modification is to allow untrusted code to run in the trusted computing installation ~~the notification is an e-mail.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The method as described in Claim 1 wherein ~~the notification is a log in an online database step of determining that the security modification is a notification event is accomplished by an abstract class instantiation which defines the type of notification in a concrete implementation of the abstract class instantiation.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The method as described in Claim 1 wherein ~~the notification is a screen message trusted computing installation further comprises a Java Virtual Machine resident in a local machine under user control.~~

9. (Currently Amended) A method of notifying a central authority of changes to a trusted computing installation, comprising the steps of:

determining that a user has made a security modification to a portion of the trusted computing installation under user control;

invoking a security notification manager class;

instantiating the security manager class with an instance that determines that the security modification is a notification event if the security modification is a predetermined event indicative of an attempt to circumvent a security mechanism of the trusted computing installation of interest; and

sending the central authority a notification of the security modification, in response to determining that the security modification is a notification event.

10. (Original) The method as described in Claim 9 wherein the notification is selected from a group of notifications consisting of: an SNMP alert, an e-mail, a database log, and a screen message.

11. (Original) The method as described in Claim 9 wherein the determining step executes a given control routine when the user has made a security modification to a portion of the trusted computing installation under user control.

12. (Original) The method as described in Claim 11 wherein the portion of the trusted computing installation is an applet signature verification routine.

13. (Original) The method as described in Claim 11 wherein the portion of the trusted computing installation is a certificate modification routine.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for notifying a central authority of changes to a trusted computing installation, comprising the steps of:

upon a given security modification, invoking a security notification manager class;

extending the security notification manager class with one of a set of instances, wherein a given instance determines that the security modification is a notification event if the security modification is a predetermined event indicative of an attempt to circumvent a security mechanism of the trusted computing installation of interest, and

sending the central authority a notification of the security modification, in response to determining that the security modification is a notification event.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer-useable medium for notifying an authority of changes to a trusted computing installation, comprising:

a security notification manager class;

at least one class instance for the security notification manager class for determining that a given security modification is a notification event if the security

modification is a predetermined event indicative of an attempt to circumvent a security mechanism of the trusted computing installation of interest; and

means for sending the authority a notification of the given security modification in response to determining that the security modification is a notification event.

16. (Original) The computer program product as described in Claim 15 wherein the notification is selected from a group of notifications consisting of: an SNMP alert, an e-mail, a database log, and a screen message.

17. (Original) The computer program product as described in Claim 15 further including a control routine for determining when the user has made a security modification to a portion of the trusted computing installation to generate the given security modification.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer program product in a computer-readable medium for notifying an authority of changes to a trusted computing installation, comprising:

a control routine executed upon a given security modification in the trusted computing installation for invoking an abstract Java class;

at least one class instance for the abstract Java class for determining that the given security modification is a notification event if the security modification is a predetermined event indicative of an attempt to circumvent a security mechanism of the trusted computing installation of interest; and

means for sending the authority a notification of the given security modification in response to determining that the security modification is a notification event.

19. (Currently Amended) A trusted computing base, comprising:
untrusted code executing in the trusted computing base;
means operative as the untrusted code is executed for determining whether a given security modification has occurred, wherein the given security modification is a

predetermined event indicative of an attempt to circumvent a security mechanism of the trusted computing base;

means responsive to the occurrence of the given security modification for invoking a security notification manager class that issues a given notification.

20. (Currently Amended) The trusted computing base as described in Claim 19 further including a set of one or more security notification manager class instances, wherein a given security notification manager class instance extends the security notification manager class to identify a given security modification ~~of interest~~.

21. (Original) The trusted computing base as described in Claim 20 wherein a given security manager class instance includes at least first and second rules, wherein the first rule triggers a first notification and the second rule triggers a second notification.

22. (Currently Amended) A notification service for a trusted computing installation, comprising:

a pluggable framework for receiving a set of notification objects, wherein each notification objects identifies a given notification that is issued upon a given security modification to the trusted computing installation, wherein the given security modification is a predetermined event indicative of an attempt to circumvent a security mechanism of the trusted computing base; and

means for issuing the given notification upon the occurrence of its associated security modification.

23. (Original) The notification service as described in Claim 22 wherein the given notification is selected from a group of notifications consisting of: an SNMP alert, an e-mail, a database log, and a screen message.